

ADMINISTRATIVE-INTERNAL USE ONLY

23 February 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Security

SUBJECT : Proposed Revision of Executive Order 10450

1. On 23 February 1976 Mr. David McCabe of the Plans and Training Division, State SY, telephonically advised that he is now a member of the drafting committee which is involved in the revision of Executive Order 10450 on "Suitability Requirements for Government Employment." He pointed out that the Chairman of the task force is Mr. Robert J. Drummond of the Civil Service Commission, who is being assisted by Mr. Walter Waldrop; Doc Cooke of the Department of Defense, who is being assisted by Mr. William Cabeny of the Defense Investigative Service; Mr. Joseph Wiezenerski (phonetic) of the Justice Department; and at least four representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. McCabe pointed out that the Bureau representatives have been alternating, and the real continuity and push is coming from the Civil Service Commission and the Defense Investigative Service.

2. Mr. McCabe advised that the revision of Executive Order 10450 is an outgrowth of the Project TEN task force, which was developed in 1975 to look into the issue of federal civilian investigative programs. McCabe was a member of that task force and has the full background on the situation. He stated that the general tenor of the current revisions is to water down and weaken 10450 so that there is much greater stress on suitability issues as opposed to security standards. He pointed out that the drafting committee will again meet on Friday, 27 February 1976, and it would appear that there is a concerted effort to keep CIA out of the deliberations. He made it clear that he pushed strongly for attendance by the Office of Security, CIA, but the general feeling of the committee was that this was not necessary. Without going into the specific concerns, Mr. McCabe indicated that the current review clearly indicated that there was some "tunnel vision" in reviewing 10450 and that there is a strong possibility that DIS is trying to resolve their own internal management problems by changing this Executive Order.

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3. In the course of my discussions with Mr. McCabe, I inquired as to whether this issue had been brought to the attention of the Security Committee of USIB. He pointed out that he had briefed Mr. Marvin Gentile, Chairman of the Security Committee, but he did not go into any particular detail. He had promised to provide a copy of the draft revision to Mr. Gentile, but he had not yet had the opportunity to do so. Mr. McCabe certainly interposed no objection to the raising of this issue before the Security Committee at the meeting scheduled for 24 February 1976.

STATINTL

4. This issue was discussed with [REDACTED] DD/PSI, and it was agreed that Clearance Division would immediately prepare an expedite analysis of the draft revision of Executive Order 10450. The hope is that this issue can be discussed at the Security Committee meeting on 24 February.

[REDACTED]

STATINTL

Chief of Operations (PSI)

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